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September 14, 1962 - Friday

Saw Colonel Hunt as my weekly wont, this morning. We had a staff meeting; as usual, there were some picturesque accounts of business conducted by our officers.

Gaston Coblentz lunched with me at home. He has been assigned here to cover the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference. As a result, he is engaged in a contest of wills with his employers, of the Herald Tribune. Not having had a salary raise for seven years, he suddenly received a summons to come here, instead of moving his wife, after long residence in Germany, into the apartment they have just rented in Paris. He is gloomily thinking of severing his connection with the Tribune, and seeking employment possibly as a representative of an American business corporation in Europe. I hope this does not occur, for of all people I know, in his profession, he is perhaps the one most thoroughly addicted to it. Even by inheritance, it is in his blood. Compared with those employed in private business, our foreign correspondents are ill paid, work long hours, and are in a state of almost perpetual motion as regards home life. Gaston told me he had been away from his home about seven months in the last twelve.

Judge Eli Frank, Chairman of the Hopkins Fund, wrote [redacted] some time ago asking me to preside over a dinner for Hopkins graduates here, to take place later this month. I [redacted] gladly accepted, surprised by being told there were over 150 guests expected. Since I am going home, he has asked me to make a statement to be read at the gathering. This I did, as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY RELS DATE 6-17-81
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